CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A ventable container, comprising:

a container member having a bottom, an upper annular rim and a substantially continuous side wall extending from said bottom and terminating at said rim, said bottom and side wall defining a first member cavity, said rim including an inner wall and a skirt, said skirt having a plurality of first threads, wherein said plurality of first threads are discontinuous around the container member, said plurality of first threads comprises at least two threads and said plurality of first threads has substantially equidistant engagement points, said inner wall of said container member having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a first sealing surface such that a portion of said first sealing surface and said plurality of first threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane; and

a closure member having a peripheral sealing portion, said sealing portion including an inner wall and a skirt, said skirt having a plurality of second threads adapted and positioned to cooperate with said first threads, wherein said plurality of second threads are discontinuous around the closure member and said plurality of second threads comprises at least two threads, said inner wall of said closure member having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a second sealing surface such that a portion of said second sealing surface and said plurality of second threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

wherein sealable engagement of said container member and closure member is effectuated when said first and second threads are in a first position with said first sealing surface in contact with said second sealing surface over a substantial length thereof,

and wherein a venting passage from said container member cavity to the container surroundings is provided when said first and second threads are in a second position.

2. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein said container member has a first substantially horizontal plane define by said container member rim and said closure member has a second substantially horizontal plane defined by said peripheral sealing portion.

3. (Original) The container of Claim 2, wherein said container member inner wall forms an angle in the range of 95 – 120° with respect to said first horizontal plane.

4. (Original) The container of Claim 2, wherein said closure member inner wall forms an angle in the range of 95 – 120° with respect to said second horizontal plane.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein said plurality of first and second threads comprises eight threads.

7. (Original) The container of Claim 6, wherein each of said plurality of first and second threads has an inclination angle in the range of approximately 5 – 10°.

8. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a raised projection that projects inwardly from said closure member skirt.

9. (Original) The container of Claim 8, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of second threads.

10. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a raised projection that projects outwardly from said container member skirt.

11. (Original) The container of Claim 10, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of first threads.

12. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein said ventable container includes hindering means for providing a tactile indication of said second position during rotation of said closure member on said container member.

13. (Original) The container of Claim 12, wherein said hindering means includes at least one proturbance disposed on at least one of said plurality of second threads and at least one recess disposed on at least one of said plurality of first threads, said recess being adapted to receive said proturbance when said plurality of first and second threads are engaged and in said second position.

14. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein said first container member comprises a bowl.

15. (Original) The container of Claim 14, wherein said closure member comprises a cooperating lid.

16. (Original) The container of Claim 1, wherein said container member and closure member comprise polyolefin or like material.

17. (Currently amended) A closure system for closing an opening in a container, the container having a sealing member adjacent the opening, comprising:

a substantially U-shaped circumferentially extending guiding channel defined by an inner wall and an outer wall that are located and configured to receive between them the sealing member of the container, said sealing member having a corresponding configuration as said guiding channel and including an inner wall and an outer wall,

said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall being tapered in the range of approximately 5 – 30°,

said guiding channel outer wall having a plurality of first threads, wherein said plurality of first threads are discontinuous around the guiding channel outer wall, said plurality of first

threads comprises at least two threads and said plurality of first threads has substantially equidistant engagement points, said guiding channel inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a first sealing surface such that a portion of said first sealing surface and said plurality of first threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

said sealing member outer wall having a plurality of second threads adapted and positioned to cooperate with said first threads, wherein said plurality of second threads are discontinuous around the sealing member outer wall, and said plurality of second threads comprises at least two threads, said sealing member inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a second sealing surface such that a portion of said second sealing surface and said plurality of second threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

wherein sealable engagement of said guiding channel and sealing member is effectuated when said first and second threads are in a first position with said first sealing surface in contact with said second sealing surface over a substantial length thereof.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The closure system of Claim 17, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a raised projection that projects inwardly from said guiding channel outer wall.

20. (Original) The closure system of Claim 19, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of first threads.

21. (Original) The closure system of Claim 17, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a raised projection that projects outwardly from said sealing member outer wall.

22. (Original) The closure system of Claim 21, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of second threads.

23. (Currently amended) A closure system for closing an opening in a container, the container having a sealing member adjacent the opening, comprising:

a substantially U-shaped circumferentially extending guiding channel defined by an inner wall and an outer wall that are located and configured to receive between them the sealing member of the container, said sealing member having a corresponding configuration as said guiding channel and including an inner wall and an outer wall,

said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall being tapered in the range of approximately 5 – 30°,

said guiding channel inner wall having a plurality of first threads, wherein said plurality of first threads are discontinuous around the guiding channel inner wall, said plurality of first threads comprises at least two threads and said plurality of first threads has substantially equidistant engagement points, said guiding channel inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a first sealing surface such that a portion of said first sealing surface and said plurality of first threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

said sealing member inner wall having a plurality of second threads adapted and positioned to cooperate with said first threads, wherein said plurality of second threads are discontinuous around the sealing member inner wall, and said plurality of second threads comprises at least two threads, said sealing member inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a second sealing surface such that a portion of said second sealing surface and said plurality of second threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

wherein sealable engagement of said guiding channel and sealing member is effectuated when said first and second threads are in a first position with said first sealing surface in contact with said second sealing surface over a substantial length thereof.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The closure system of Claim 23, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a raised projection that projects outwardly from said guiding channel inner wall.

26. (Original) The closure system of Claim 25, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of first threads.

27. (Original) The closure system of Claim 23, wherein each of said plurality of second threads comprises a raised projection that projects inwardly from said sealing member inner wall.

28. (Original) The closure system of Claim 27, wherein each of said plurality of first threads comprises a guide adapted to receive one of said plurality of second threads.

29. (Currently amended) A closure system for closing an opening in a container, the container having a sealing member adjacent the opening, comprising:

a substantially U-shaped circumferentially extending guiding channel defined by an inner wall and an outer wall that are located and configured to receive between them the sealing member of the container, said sealing member having a corresponding configuration as said guiding channel and including an inner wall and an outer wall,

said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall being tapered in the range of approximately 5 – 30°,

said guiding channel outer wall having a plurality of first threads, wherein said plurality of first threads are discontinuous around the guiding channel outer wall, said plurality of first threads comprises at least two threads and said plurality of first threads has substantially equidistant engagement points, said guiding channel inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a first sealing surface such that a

portion of said first sealing surface and said plurality of first threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

said sealing member outer wall having a plurality of second threads adapted and positioned to cooperate with said first threads, wherein said plurality of second threads are discontinuous around the sealing member outer wall, and said plurality of second threads comprises at least two threads, said sealing member inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a second sealing surface such that a portion of said second sealing surface and said plurality of second threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

~~said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall providing sealing means when said first and second threads are in an engaged position~~

wherein sealable engagement of said guiding channel and sealing member is effectuated when said first and second threads are in a first position with said first sealing surface in contact with said second sealing surface over a substantial length thereof.

30. (Original) The closure system of Claim 29, wherein said guiding channel and said sealing member comprise a polymeric material.

31. (Original) The closure system of Claim 30, wherein said guiding channel and said sealing member comprise thermoformed members.

32. (Currently amended) A closure system for closing an opening in a container, the container having a sealing member adjacent the opening, comprising:

a substantially U-shaped circumferentially extending guiding channel defined by an inner wall and an outer wall that are located and configured to receive between them the sealing member of the container, said sealing member having a corresponding configuration as said guiding channel and including an inner wall and an outer wall,

said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall being tapered in the range of approximately 5 – 30°,

said guiding channel inner wall having a plurality of first threads, wherein said plurality of first threads are discontinuous around the guiding channel inner wall, said plurality of first threads comprises at least two threads and said plurality of first threads has substantially equidistant engagement points, said guiding channel inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a first sealing surface such that a portion of said first sealing surface and said plurality of first threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

said sealing member inner wall having a plurality of second threads adapted and positioned to cooperate with said first threads, wherein said plurality of second threads are discontinuous around the sealing member inner wall, and said plurality of second threads comprises at least two threads, said sealing member inner wall having a length extending in a substantially vertically downward direction sufficient to define a second sealing surface such that a portion of said second sealing surface and said plurality of second threads are located substantially in a common horizontal plane,

~~said guiding channel inner wall and said container sealing member inner wall providing sealing means when said first and second threads are in an engaged position~~

wherein sealable engagement of said guiding channel and sealing member is effectuated when said first and second threads are in a first position with said first sealing surface in contact with said second sealing surface over a substantial length thereof.

33. (Original) The closure system of Claim 32, wherein said guiding channel and said sealing member comprise a polymeric material.

34. (Original) The closure system of Claim 33, wherein said guiding channel and said sealing member comprise thermoformed members.